

Before you start

This form must be filled out using Adobe Acrobat Reader.

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Although your form may *appear* to be filled out correctly when using non-Adobe software, Adobe Acrobat Reader is the only software that will properly retain your form details. Non-Adobe software such as Microsoft Office products and internet web browsers (i.e. Google Chrome, Firefox, Internet Explorer, EDGE, and Safari) as well as scanned applications are NOT supported. All mobile devices including iphones, androids, ipads and MAC computers are also NOT compatible.

Applicants that do not complete this form in Adobe Acrobat Reader will be required to resubmit their application using Adobe Acrobat Reader. Applicants who complete this form using non-Adobe software will be required to **redo and resubmit** using Adobe software before it can be accepted.

TO COMPLETE THIS FORM:

1. Download a free version of Adobe Acrobat Reader if you do not already have it installed on your computer. [Adobe Acrobat Reader](#)
2. Save this form to your computer before you begin filling it out.
 - File > Save As > [give the file a name] > Save.
 - Do NOT fill out this form in your internet browser window.
3. Open the file from your computer.
 - Make sure that the file is opening in the Adobe Acrobat Reader software.
 - You can work on completing the form at any time. Remember to save your file along the way.
 - Once complete, save the file.
4. Email the Adobe-completed PDF form as an attachment to excellenceinagriculture@ontario.ca
 - Do not send your document using Adobe Cloud.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: September 14, 2023 11:59pm

Applicant Information

Operating Name of Business/Organization (Name under which the business operates)

Legal Name of Business/Organization (Complete name business is registered under)

Same as Operating Name or:

BUSINESS MAILING ADDRESS AND WEBSITE

Address

City/Town

Municipality

Province

Postal Code

Website URL:

PRIMARY CONTACT FOR APPLICATION

First Name

Last Name

Job Title

Business Email Address

Phone

**1. Describe the Person, Organization or Business. (See Excellence in Agriculture Guidelines for description of eligible applicants)
(maximum 200 words)**

AWARD CATEGORIES

2. Select one Award Category you are applying to. (See Excellence in Agriculture Guidelines for description of Award categories)

Excellence in Food Processing

Excellence in Research and Innovation

Women's Excellence

Youth Excellence

Excellence in Agri-Food Education

Northern Business Excellence

Indigenous Owned Business or Community Excellence

Farm Family Excellence

Agri-Food Promotional Excellence

Supply Chain Excellence

Excellence in Agri-Food Talent Recruitment

3. Which Outcomes has your achievement addressed? (Select all that apply)

Strengthening Ontario's Agri-Food supply chain

Attracting and growing Ontario's Agri-Food workforce

Enhancing food safety, traceability and/or stewardship practices in the Ontario agri-food sector

Increasing/ maintaining access to high-quality, local and nutritious food

Supporting Agri-Food market development and trade (e.g. intra-provincial and international trade)

Increasing public engagement and support for agriculture, local food and knowledge of Ontario's Agri-Food sector

Building leadership capacity and increased involvement of women and youth in the agri-food sector

**4. Describe your achievement in detail and how it relates to the outcomes identified above.
(maximum 500 words)**

*Include any Pictures, drawings and letters of support to strengthen your application,

5. Development, Uniqueness and Originality

Describe your achievement including whether you developed this yourself, modified existing technology or adopted it from elsewhere. Highlight what makes your achievement unique and original. Outline the process used in developing, modifying or adapting your achievement and what stage of development it is in (i.e. concept, design, prototype, development or operational).
(maximum 250 words)

6. Broader Use, Adoption and/or Commercialization

Provide an overview on the broader use, adoption and/or commercialization of your achievement (if applicable).
(maximum 250 words)

ATTESTATIONS & ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Compliance with Terms and Conditions of Participation

I, the undersigned, acknowledge that I have read, understood, agreed to and fully complied with the terms and conditions of participation in the Excellence in Agriculture Program as set out in the Program Guidelines and in this Application Form, and attest that the information provided on all parts pertaining to the Program is true and complete to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.

Compliance with Legislation and Regulations

I further attest that I / we are in compliance with all federal, provincial and municipal legislation that applies to me / us and our operations and to the innovation that is described in this application. I / we accept that the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, in their sole discretion, may for any reason and at any time retract an award, including the use of the Excellence in Agriculture wordmark, and that I / we will follow all directions issued to us thereafter concerning the same.

Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA)

I solemnly attest that the owners of this business and / or the Board of Directors of this agri-food organization are not employees of OMAFRA or related to employees of OMAFRA.

Authorized Signing Officer Name

Title

Email

Date (YYYY/MM/DD)

Take notice that the information you supply on the application form is being collected by OMAFRA's Economic Development Division and may be used and disclosed for the purpose of administering and promoting the Excellence in Agriculture Program. This includes processing your application, confirming your program eligibility, and contacting you in the event that you are selected as an award recipient. Your information may be subject to audit and also be shared with application review panels. In the event that you are an award recipient, your name, contact information and photographs may also be disclosed in print and/or electronic form to promote the objectives of the Excellence in Agriculture award as set out in the Program Guidebook and Application Form.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the collection, use and disclosure of the information you submit, please contact: Administrative Services Representative, Rural Programs Branch, Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, at 1 Stone Rd. W., Guelph, ON N1G 4Y2, phone: 266-979-7884.

Or, for more information, contact the
Agricultural Information Contact Centre at 1-877-424-1300.